

WEATHER
FORECASTFair Tonight
and Wednesday

LAS VEGAS OPTIC

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EAST LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1909

FIVE O'CLOCK EDITION.

GOVERNOR JOHN A. JOHNSON OF MINNESOTA DIED TODAY

FAMOUS DEMOCRAT SUCCUMBS
TO SURGICAL OPERATION FOR
REMOVAL OF FATAL ABSCESS

Death Came at Hospital in Rochester Where
He Had Been a Patient For a Week
Past Under Care of Noted
Specialists.

WELCOMED RELIEF FROM TERRIBLE SUFFERING

Just Before End Came He Raised Himself
to Pat Sobbing Wife on Cheek and His
Last Words Were "Well, Nora. I Guess
I'm Going, We Have Made a Brave
Fight."

Rochester, Minn., Sept. 21.—Governor John A. Johnson, three times elected governor of Minnesota and looked upon as the logical democratic standard bearer for president in 1912, died at St. Mary's hospital here at 3:25 o'clock this morning, following an operation last Wednesday for the removal of an abscess in his abdomen.

Since the operation, the governor's life had been in the balance continuously, although he made a remarkable fight to recover. The immediate cause of his death was exhaustion, due to the lack of nourishment and the shock resulting from the operation, which brought about heart failure.

At his bedside when the end came, besides the specialists, were Mrs. Johnson and several of his closest friends. Although the patient had been in a lethargic state the greater part of the night, he occasionally roused and at times seemed to wish that the end might come to relieve his intense suffering. Once he murmured, "My, the time drags so slowly, I am so uncomfortable." Just before he passed away, Governor Johnson raised himself on his elbow to pat his sobbing wife on the cheek.

His last words were "Well, Nora, I guess I'm going, we have made a brave fight."

FATAL OPERATION WAS
MOST TERRIBLE ONE

The operation, which resulted in the governor's death after a week of terrible suffering, was performed Wednesday of last week at the hospital of the Drs. Mayo in Rochester, who are famed throughout the surgical world for their skilled work. Only a year ago Governor Johnson underwent an operation for appendicitis and symptoms of trouble reappearing, he was advised to again submit to the knife. This second operation was a very critical one and proved much more serious than had been anticipated by the specialists. He was on the operating table for nearly three hours. Dr. William J. Mayo was assisted by his brother, Dr. Charles Mayo, in the case. The surgeons found a small, deep-seated abscess connected with the intestines. The latter were in a bad condition. They were highly inflamed and adhered to each other as well as to the abdominal

walls. An outside surgeon who witnessed the operation said that it was one of the most terrible of its kind he ever saw. An old abscess was found that had left a fistula in the abdomen and this was removed as well as a hernia growth. As soon as the patient regained consciousness after the operation he called for his wife, to whom he was greatly devoted, and she went at once to his bedside. Here she remained almost constantly until the end came this morning. His last thoughts were for her as shown by his dying words. The first operation ever performed on Governor Johnson was undertaken fifteen years ago, at which time a large abscess was removed.

The Pride of Minnesota

John A. Johnson was the pride of Minnesota and his hold on the state was more than political. It was an enthusiasm for a man who had broken down party lines to a great degree.

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PRESIDENT WIRES
HIS CONDOLENCE

Limon, Colo., Sept. 21.—President Taft, who learned of the death of Governor Johnson of Minnesota, when he reached here this morning on his way to Denver, was deeply affected. He immediately sent a telegram of condolence to the grief-stricken widow. He paid the dead statesman the following high tribute: "The death of Governor Johnson is a great shock and fills me with personal sorrow for the people of Minnesota, whose favorite son he was. He was a wonderful man. He added to charming personality, frankness and common sense, which won over his political opponents and made him an able, efficient and courageous public official."

BRYAN EULOGIZES
DEAD STATESMAN

Douglas, Ariz., Sept. 21.—W. J. Bryan, when notified this morning of the death of Governor Johnson, said: "His career illustrates the possibilities of an American citizen. His death is a great loss to our party and to the country. His civic virtues won him a host of admirers and his personal qualities converted his admirers into true friends."

BELEN WOMAN DRINKS
CARBOLIC ACID; DIES

(Special Dispatch.)
Belen, N. M., Sept. 21.—Mrs. Eva Pearl Hickler, a beautiful matron of this city, aged 26 years, died here today in great agony as a result of drinking carbolic acid. She leaves a babe and a husband. The husband is a Santa Fe machinist and he says his wife took the poison by mistake, denying that she committed suicide.

MALAQUIAS MARTINEZ
COAL OIL INSPECTOR

(Special Dispatch.)
Santa Fe, N. M., Sept. 21.—Governor Curry today announced that he had appointed Malaquias Martinez, on Taos, coal oil inspector, in place of Venceslao Jaramillo, who refused to serve because of his extensive business interests. Martinez will file his bond and assume the duties of the office at once.

PRESIDENT TAFT ARRIVED
IN DENVER THIS AFTERNOON

Denver, Sept. 21.—President Taft, whose guest he will be throughout the day. Tonight the president will deliver an important address at the auditorium, presumably on the Pinchot-Ballinger controversy and the conservation policies of the national administration. After spending the night at the Hughes home, he will go tomorrow to Woolhurst, the beautiful country home of Thomas F. Walsh. From there he will continue westward on his journey.

President Taft's speech tonight will probably make known in the fullest detail his views on conservation of the national resources. It will be the last of the big speeches to be made by him on the trip and the president has delayed discussing the subject of conservation until he entered the country which depended upon irrigation and reclamation projects for its agricultural prosperity.



GOVERNOR JOHN A. JOHNSON

DEATH DEALING HURRICANE
SWEEPS THE GULF STATES

New Orleans, Sept. 21.—After attaining a velocity of sixty miles an hour at New Orleans last night the West Indian hurricane which struck the Louisiana and Mississippi gulf coast was reduced in its intensity at 2 p. m. today. It left four dead at New Orleans and perhaps others along the gulf coast, though no definite advices of mortality in other sections have been thus far received here. The property loss in New Orleans will exceed \$100,000.

Storm Moving North

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 21.—Although communication is only partially established, reports today indicate that the hurricane has abated over the gulf states and is moving toward the Ohio river valley. Several passenger trains are waterbound between New Orleans and Mobile.

Hurricane Hits Nashville

Nashville, Sept. 21.—The gulf hurricane struck Nashville at noon today. No fatalities are reported, but much damage has been done.

Night of Terror in Mobile

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 21.—After a night of terror, during which a hurri-

cane swept this city, backing up the waters of the gulf over the docks and into the streets the storm subsided early today. No loss of life occurred, but twenty thousand dollars' worth of property was destroyed.

Damage at Natchez

Memphis, Sept. 21.—An unconfirmed report has reached here that Natchez, Miss., suffered severely from a storm and fire today.

HITCHCOCK EULOGIZES
SECRETARY BALLINGER

Seattle, Sept. 21.—Postmaster General Frederick H. Hitchcock brought the guests of the Chamber of Commerce to their feet last night with an eulogy of Secretary of the Interior Ballinger. He said: "His character is as unswerving as the snow on your mountain ranges. You might as well attempt to shake the foundations of Mt. Ranier as to assail his character."

TERRITORY INHERITS BIG
RANCH IN PECOS VALLEY

(Special Dispatch.)
Santa Fe, N. M., Sept. 21.—By a decree of the district court for Chaves county the 160-acre farm of Festus Keen escheats to the territory. It is valued at fifteen dollars an acre and Land Commissioner Ervien took possession of it today. Keen having no heirs and having left no will.

WORLD MUST
WAIT SAYS
COOK

REACHES NEW YORK AND SAYS
HE HAS PROOF THAT HE
FOUND POLE

WITHHOLDS DETAILS HOWEVER

ARCTIC EXPLORER CLAIMS IT
WILL TAKE TIME FOR HIM
TO PREPARE DATA

MAKES GUARDED STATEMENT

DANISH GOVERNMENT AND UNI-
VERSITY OF COPENHAGEN
TO GET FACTS FIRST

New York, Sept. 21.—The steamer Oscar II, anchored at quarantine early this morning. Just before being taken off by a welcoming committee, Dr. Cook said:

"I shall await events. When my material has been collected and put in shape, it will first be submitted to the University of Copenhagen and then laid before the geographical societies of the world. I will not consent to submit the fragmentary portions of my observations to any one."

When the tug bearing his wife and children drew alongside the Oscar II, Cook jumped aboard and took his wife and children in his arms, while the passengers sang: "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." He then transferred to the Grand Republic, where he was met by a reception committee. A wreath of roses was placed around his neck. After steaming up the North river and back, Cook landed at Brooklyn, his home.

Asked by an Associated Press correspondent why he did not immediately give the full details of his achievement, he said:

"I have given the public a concise account of my journey, and for the present no other details are necessary and no further specific evidences of my claim have been called for from any source. It has never been the practice heretofore for explorers to make known their records to the public in such haste. The Danish government and the University of Copenhagen have accepted my claim and stood up for my assertions and in justice to them my intention is to place the first completed record of my journey at the disposal of the University of Copenhagen."

Regarding Peary's charges, Dr. Cook said:

"I have heard nothing but vague reports, which I prefer to believe are incorrect. I am fully prepared to meet any charges, but I must first

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WORK IS BEGUN ON \$32,000
BRIDGE ACROSS THE GALLINAS

After considerable delay, caused by litigation over the Rogers blacksmith shop which stood in the way of the proposed new bridge across the Gallinas river, connecting the city with the town of Las Vegas, work was finally begun yesterday, when a force of men was employed under Florentino Montoya, to do the excavating for the piers of the new bridge.

The plans and specifications call for an arch concrete bridge, which will accommodate both the electric cars and vehicles, and have a runway for

pedestrians. It will be larger than the present bridge and will be practically indestructible, as it will be constructed of steel and reinforced concrete. The bridge will be a decided improvement over the present structure, which is an eye-sore in its dilapidated condition.

The bridge is expected to be completed by the first of the year, barring unlooked for delays or unfavorable weather. It will cost \$32,000.

The Missouri Valley Bridge company of Leavenworth, Kan., has the contract.

TWO ALLEGED HORSE THIEVES
BOUND OVER TO GRAND JURY

Yesterday Justice of the Peace Trinidad Sena, on the West side, bound Facundo Medina and Julio Montano over to the grand jury in the sum of \$1,000 each, on the accusation of having a stolen horse in their possession. They are also charged with having received and concealed stolen property, among which were a suit of clothes belonging to Dr. F. B. Lester, of Nolan, a violin owned by a ranchman residing near that station and other articles of less value, which had been stolen from different parties.

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